

WI-236
Ralph Harcum House
Allen
Private

1932

Historically labeled the Ralph Harcum house, or the Harcum-Huffington house, this story-and-a-half frame bungalow was remained relatively unchanged since its construction in 1932. Built by Ralph Harcum with the assistance of his brother Harry, the house was assembled in part from supplies and materials acquired through the E. E. Jackson Lumber Company. Supported on a continuous brick foundation, the weatherboard frame dwelling repeats the general form and essential details of numerous bungalows erected across the lower Eastern Shore during the second quarter of the twentieth century. The tapered post front porch stretches across the front of the house sheltering the entrance as well as paired windows to each side. Characteristic of many bungalows is the large gabled dormers that lights the second floor. Each side wall is marked by a bay window covered by a shed roof.

While construction of the house occurred during the ownership of Ralph R. and Irma H. Harcum, the couple sold the house and lot were sold in December 1932 to Ralph's brother-in-law William Clifford Huffington. After William Clifford Huffington's death, his wife Dorothy Harcum Huffington purchased the interests of the other heirs. She retained the title to the property until her death in 1975 when she passed the house and lot to her niece, Mary Hope Harcum.

**Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. WI-236

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic RALPH HARCUM HOUSE

and/or common Harcum-Huffington House

2. Location

street & number 3506 Allen Road ☐ not for publication

city, town Allen ☐ vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Wicomico

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Mary Hope Harcum

street & number P. O. Box 75 telephone no.:

city, town Allen state and zip code Maryland 21810

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Wicomico County Clerk of Court liber 1088

street & number Wicomico County Courthouse folio 302

city, town Salisbury state MD 21810

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

pository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. WI-236

Condition

☐ excellent

☒ good

☐ fair

☐ deteriorated

☐ ruins

☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered

☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site

☐ moved

date of move

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Ralph Harcum house is located at 3506 Allen Road in the village of Allen, Wicomico County, Maryland. The story-and-a-half frame bungalow faces southeast with the gable roof oriented on a northeast/southwest axis.

Built in 1932, the story-and-a-half frame house rests on a continuous stretcher bond brick foundation, and the exterior is covered with vinyl siding. The medium pitched gable roof is sheathed with asphalt shingles. The eaves are extended and the rafter ends are exposed. Standing in the backyard is a gable roofed frame garage.

The southeast (main) elevation is a symmetrical facade with a center entrance filled with a partially glazed front door. Paired single-pane sash windows are located to each side. Sheltering the first floor is a shed roofed front porch supported by tapered posts on brick plinths. Dominating the roof slope is a large gable roof dormer marked by three single-pane sash windows. The undecorated rafter ends are exposed.

The northeast side elevation is marked by an asymmetrical fenestration with paired single-pane sash windows lighting the first and second floors. A single-story bay extends from the northern side of the wall and is covered with a shed roof. The rafter ends of the shed roof are exposed.

The southwest gable end is defined by an asymmetrical fenestration as well, and it is marked by a partial interior and partial exterior brick chimney that pierces the extended eave. The chimney stack has a single corbelled shoulder and a molded cap. Located to each side of the chimney stack is a single-pane sash window. A third first floor window marks the rear section of the wall to light the back room. The upper gable end is pierced by a paired set of single-pane sash windows.

Attached to the back of the house is an enclosed shed porch. Other details remain consistent with the rest of the house. The interior was not seen.

8. Significance

Survey No. WI-236

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1932 Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

Historically labeled the Ralph Harcum house, or the Harcum-Huffington house, this story-and-a-half frame bungalow was remained relatively unchanged since its construction in 1932. Built by Ralph Harcum with the assistance of his brother Harry, the house was assembled in part from supplies and materials acquired through the E. E. Jackson Lumber Company. Supported on a continuous brick foundation, the weatherboard frame dwelling repeats the general form and essential details of numerous bungalows erected across the lower Eastern Shore during the second quarter of the twentieth century. The tapered post front porch stretches across the front of the house sheltering the entrance as well as paired windows to each side. Characteristic of many bungalows is the large gabled dormers that lights the second floor. Each side wall is marked by a bay window covered by a shed roof.

While construction of the house occurred during the ownership of Ralph R. and Irma H. Harcum, the couple sold the house and lot were sold in December 1932 to Ralph's brother-in-law William Clifford Huffington. (Wicomico County Land Record, IDT 179/203) After William Clifford Huffington's death, his wife Dorothy Harcum Huffington purchased the interests of the other heirs. She retained the title to the property until her death in 1975 when her will passed the house and lot to her niece, Mary Hope Harcum. (Wicomico County Register of Wills, ALL 7/213)

The house qualifies for listing in Category B, which identified properties that should be preserved due their intact architectural integrity and since they are a good example of a particular style of architecture. The house contributes to the historic character of the village.

WI-236
RALPH HARCUM HOUSE
3506 Allen Road
Allen, Wicomico County, Maryland
Chain of title

1088/302 Blan E. Harcum
 Mary Hope Harcum
 Personal Representatives of Dorothy
 Harcum Huffington

to

12/15/1986 Mary Hope Harcum
 being the same land conveyed unto William
 Clifford Huffington by G. Murray Phillips,
 Sheriff, et al. 12/14/1932 IDT 179/203
 whereupon the said Wm Clifford Huffington
 having since departed this life intestate
 whereupon the above described property
 descended unto his widow, Dorothy Harcum
 Huffington and Maiblume Huffington, Linda
 H. Stewart, Jesse M. Huffington, Hester Ann
 White, Sara H. Baker and Drexel H.
 Huffington....the said Dorothy H. Huffington
 having acquired the interests of Maiblume
 Huffington, Linda H. Stewart, Jesse M.
 Huffington, Hester Ann White, Sarah H. Baker,
 and Drexel Huffington, by deed dated August
 31, 1967, JWS 656/63 and the said
 Dorothy Harcum Huffington having since
 departed this life testate, and by Item Fifth
 of her last will and testament dated 9/2/1975
 ALL 7/213 devised the property unto her
 niece Mary Hope Harcum

IDT 179/203 G. Murray Phillips

to

12/14/1932 William Clifford Huffington
 all that interest of the said Ralph R. Harcum
 and Irma H. Harcum

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RALPH HARCUM HOUSE

Allen, Wicomico County, Maryland

Chain of title continued

IDT 155/541

Oliver O. Banks

Laura T. Banks

to

7/18/1928

Ralph R. Harcum

Irma H. Harcum

being part of the same land conveyed
to said Oliver O. Banks by Rex A. Taylor
Trustee 3/21/1923 JCK 128/563

Holy Temple

Eden Friends

Allen

WI-236
Ralph Harcum House
3506 Allen Road
Allen, Wicomico County, Maryland
Eden, Maryland Quadrangle
1983

CREEK

Loretto

Substation

CONRAIL

42°30"

39

(PRINCESS ANNE)

5860 II NW

SCALE 1:24 000

PRINCESS ANNE

40

42



NI-256

RAPID Harbor House

September 1954 - W

11/10, 1954 - 1955. 1954 - 1955

11/95, Paul Turner, 11/14/1955

11/11/1955 - 1956 - 1957 -

2



W-236

KALPIT

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3/2